

not, however, arriving till January 1901 (see 'Ibis,' 1901, p. 737), and one to Denmark (see above, p. 163).

A wonderful new Bird of Paradise.—In the last number of the 'Ornithologische Monatsberichte' (Jahrg. ix. p. 185) Dr. Reichenow describes a new and wonderful Paradise-bird, a skin of which has been recently received at Berlin from Kaiser Wilhelm's-land (German New Guinea), where it is said to have been obtained in the neighbourhood of Friedrich-Wilhelm's Hafen. It appears to be probably a bastard between *Seleucides niger* and some species of true *Paradisea*—perhaps *P. minor finschi* or *P. augustæ-victoriæ*, nearly every feature of the novelty being met with in one or the other of these two forms. Dr. Reichenow proposes for this bird the name of *Paradisea mirabilis*, if it should turn out *not* to be a hybrid; and adds that if such shall be found to be not the case, it would probably be necessary to give it a new generic name. A figure of this bird will be given in the 'Journal für Ornithologie.'

The Pretoria Museum and Zoological Garden.—We are informed that Mr. Lewis T. Griffin, now Taxidermist at the South African Museum, Capetown, after six years' service in that Institution, has accepted an appointment as Chief Taxidermist to the Pretoria Museum and Chief Overseer of the Zoological Garden attached thereto. The Director of both these Institutions is Dr. J. W. B. Gunning, F.Z.S.

XI.—Obituary.

MR. JOHN YOUNG, MR. H. M. COURAGE, the Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON, MR. W. DOHERTY, and Cav. L. M. D'ALBERTIS.

MR. JOHN YOUNG, who died on the 25th of May last, was the second son of the late Rev. Edward Newton Young, Rector of Quainton, Bucks, and was born in June 1838. Being originally intended for the Navy, he was educated at Dr. Burney's noted Naval College at Gosport, but a slight deafness altered his destination, and, after a voyage to India

in 1856-7, he became a member of the staff of the War Office in 1858, and retired on pension in 1893. During all his life Young's spare time was almost entirely devoted to field-ornithology, and few men in this country were better acquainted with the habits and the notes of birds—for Young had an excellent "ear," in spite of the deafness to which allusion has been made. He was elected a Member of the B. O. U. in 1878; but his name does not appear as a contributor to this Journal, and, in fact, he wrote very little anywhere. Young lost no opportunity of travelling, and made a collection of birds—especially of pelagic species—of considerable scientific value, during a year's cruise to South America, Japan, China, &c., in the yacht 'Golden Fleece,' in 1886-7, but no account of it was ever printed. In fact, owing to this excellent observer's bad health of late years and consequent retirement, his death occurred almost unnoticed.

Mr. HAROLD MITCHELL COURAGE, of Snowdenham Hall, Bramley, Surrey, who died on August 14th, at the early age of 40, was elected a Member of the B. O. U. in 1892, but does not appear to have contributed to the pages of 'The Ibis.' He left his collection of birds, consisting of from 6000 to 7000 specimens, to Cheltenham College. A few years ago Mr. Courage presented a representative collection of British birds to the Museum of Hobart, Tasmania.

By the death of the Rev. HUGH A. MACPHERSON, at the Rectory, Pitlochry, Perthshire, on the 26th of November last, Ornithology has suffered a severe loss. Born at Calcutta on February 19th, 1858, the eldest son of a former Editor of the 'Quarterly Review,' Mr. Macpherson was educated at Haileybury College, whence he went to Oriel College, Oxford, in 1876, taking his degree in 1881, and being ordained in the following year. In 1888 he was appointed Chaplain of Carlisle gaol, and in 1897 became Perpetual Curate of Allonby, Cumberland, while the incumbency of the Episcopal Church of Pitlochry fell to his lot in 1900. Having been elected a Member of the B. O. U. in 1886, Macpherson made

many valuable communications to 'The Ibis,' amongst which the introduction to the British List of the Isabelline Wheatear (*Saxicola isabellina*) and the Frigate-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) deserve special mention. He also wrote papers for the 'Zoologist,' the 'Annals of Scottish Natural History,' and the 'Field,' as well as the scientific portions of the volumes on "Grouse," "Partridge," and "Pheasant" in Longman's 'Fur and Feather' series; but his most important works were the 'Fauna of Lakeland' (Edinburgh, 1892) and a unique and exhaustive volume on the 'History of Fowling' published in 1897. Macpherson was a thorough naturalist, and his varied sources of information were always freely placed at the service of his friends, by whom his loss is severely felt, and by few more than by the writer of this brief notice.—H. S.

Mr. WILLIAM DOHERTY.—The well-known zoological collector, William Doherty, whose decease we have already mentioned, succumbed to an attack of dysentery in the Railway Hospital at Nairobi, British East Africa, on the 25th of May last year. Doherty was born in 1857 at Mount Auburn, Cincinnati, where his parents are said to be still living. It was not until 1882, after lengthened travels through Europe, Asia Minor, Persia, and India, that he began to devote his energies mainly to Natural History. He soon became known as an excellent collector and acute observer, and wrote several papers in the 'Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,' which attracted much notice, but at that time he only worked at Insects and Land-shells. Mr. Hartert, who has kindly assisted us in preparing these notes, met with Doherty in the Malay Peninsula in 1888, and travelled in his company through Assam and the Naga Hills. Doherty came to Tring in 1895, when preparing to start on his last great expedition to the eastern tropics, and was there persuaded to add birds to his field of operations. The great success to which he attained in this branch of Zoology is well known to all who have studied the numerous articles on his bird-collections published in the 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

After this Doherty returned home to America, but early last year was again in England, and arranged to make a new expedition to East Africa. He left for Mombasa in March 1901, and was quickly at work up country, in the neighbourhood of Lake Naivasha and the Mau Escarpment. Here it was that he discovered the remarkable new Bush-Shrike, *Laniarius dohertyi*, which has been dedicated to his memory by Mr. Rothschild (Bull. B. O. C. xi. p. 52).

There are now lying in the Tring Museum several parcels of Doherty's bird-skins from New Guinea, the Southern Philippines and East Africa, not yet worked out. Articles on these collections, as also a more complete notice of the life and labours of this active and successful naturalist, prepared by Mr. Hartert, will shortly appear in 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

Another formerly well-known ornithological collector whose loss we have to deplore is the Cavaliere LUIGI MARIA D'ALBERTIS, one of the earliest explorers in New Guinea, who, as we learn from 'The Geographical Journal' (xviii. p. 629), died at Sassari, in Sardinia, on the 2nd of September last. D'Albertis's travels in New Guinea, of which he gave to the public a full account in 1880 ('New Guinea, what I did and what I saw': 2 vols., London, Sampson Low), extended over a period of five years. He first visited that country in 1872, in company with Dr. Beccari, and on that occasion ascended the Arfak Range and lived in a Papuan hut, at a height of 3600 feet, for about a month. Here he discovered the beautiful Paradise-bird, *Drepanornis albertisi* Sclater, which will worthily perpetuate his name, besides many other rare birds. In 1875 d'Albertis resided for some months on Yule Island, near Port Moresby, and in November of that year joined Mr. McFarlane in a pioneer voyage up the Fly River. During two subsequent visits, of which an account was given to the world by the Geographical Society of London (see Proc. R. Geogr. Soc. i. 1879, p. 4), this river was fully explored and traced almost to its sources, and large collections were made, which, we believe, are now, along with most of d'Albertis's other specimens, in the Museo Civico of Genoa.